GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1724
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2008
EXPORT OF RICE
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Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the steep rise in the prices of the rice recently in the domestic market is due to rise in export of the commodity;

(b) if so, the total quantity of rice exported and foreign exchange earned therefrom during each of the last three years;

(c) whether Government is planning to stop the export of rice to meet the domestic needs;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to bring down the prices of rice in domestic market?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

a): The rise in price of rice in India is in line with increase in prices of rice globally over the last few years.

b): The details of exports of rice from India during last three years is as given below:

Qty. MTs Value: Rs. lakhs

	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
Basmati Rice	1162989	282390	1166563	304309	1045715	279281
Non-BasmatiRice	3615110	394502	2921602	317817	3702192	424308

Source: DGCIS, Kolkata
c) to e): The Government, with the aim to control the prices of the rice in the domestic market, has sought to restrict the exports of rice. It has introduced a 'Minimum Export Price' (MEP) for export of both basmati and non-basmati rice which is currently the FOB price of US $ 900 per ton(Rs.36000 per ton) and US $ 650 per ton(Rs. 26000 per ton) respectively. Further export of rice has been restricted through four ports only, which are Kandla, Kakinada, Kolkata and JNPT, Mumbai.